

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 11 are rejected and claims 4-10, 12, and 13 are allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 4-10, 12, and 13.

Claims 1-3 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0036547 A1 to Harima et al. (hereinafter Harima). The Examiner asserts that all of the features of claim 1 are disclosed in Harima.

Applicants submit with this response a certified translation of the priority document, Japanese Patent Application No. 2002/268143. Since the date of the priority document is September 13, 2002, the filing of the certified translation avoids the Harima reference, which has a filing date of August 7, 2003.

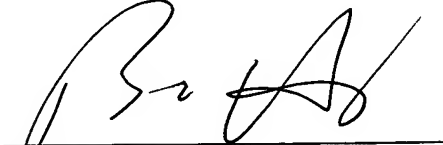
It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn and claims 1-3 and 11 be placed in condition for allowance.

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Appl. No. 10/661,978

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian E. Hennessey', is written over a horizontal line.

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